

would lead to an irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources prior to the submittal of the remainder of the information required by § 50.30(f) of this chapter that would prejudice the later review and decision on such alternative sites; or

(2) In cases where it appears that an early partial decision on any issue or issues of site suitability would not be in the public interest considering (i) the degree of likelihood that any early findings on those issues would retain their validity in later reviews, (ii) the objections, if any, of cognizant state or local government agencies to the conduct of an early review on those issues, and (iii) the possible effect on the public interest and the parties of having an early, if not necessarily conclusive, resolution of those issues.

[42 FR 22885, May 5, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 9401, Mar. 12, 1984]

§ 2.606 Partial decisions on site suitability issues.

(a) The provisions of §§ 2.754, 2.755, 2.760, 2.761, 2.762, 2.763, and 2.764(a) shall apply to any partial initial decision rendered in accordance with this subpart. Section 2.764(b) shall not apply to any partial initial decision rendered in accordance with this subpart. No limited work authorization may be issued pursuant to § 50.10(e) of part 50 of this chapter and no construction permit may be issued without completion of the full review required by section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and subpart A of part 51 of this chapter. The authority of the Commission to review such a partial initial decision *sua sponte*, or to raise *sua sponte* an issue that has not been raised by the parties, will be exercised within the same time period as in the case of a full decision relating to the issuance of a construction permit.

(b)(1) A partial decision on one or more site suitability issues pursuant to the applicable provisions of part 50, subpart A of part 51, and part 100 of this chapter issued in accordance with this subpart shall (i) clearly identify the site to which the partial decision applies and (ii) indicate to what extent additional information may be needed and additional review may be required

to enable the Commission to determine in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the applicable provisions of the regulations in this chapter whether a construction permit for a facility to be located on the site identified in the partial decision should be issued or denied.

(2) Following completion of Commission review of the partial initial decision of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, after hearing, on the site suitability issues, the partial decision shall remain in effect either for a period of five years or, where the applicant for the construction permit has made timely submittal of the information required to support the application as provided in § 2.101(a-1), until the proceeding for a permit to construct a facility on the site identified in the partial decision has been concluded,³ unless the Commission or Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, upon its own initiative or upon motion by a party to the proceeding, finds that there exists significant new information that substantially affects the earlier conclusions and reopens the hearing record on site suitability issues. Upon good cause shown, the Commission may extend the five year period during which a partial decision shall remain in effect for a reasonable period of time not to exceed one year.

[42 FR 22885, May 5, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 9401, Mar. 12, 1984]

Subpart G—Rules of General Applicability

§ 2.700 Scope of subpart.

The general rules in this subpart govern procedure in all adjudications initiated by the issuance of an order pursuant to § 2.202, an order pursuant to § 2.205(e), a notice of hearing, a notice of proposed action issued pursuant to § 2.105, or a notice issued pursuant to § 2.102(d)(3). The procedures applicable to the proceeding on an application for a license to receive and possess high-level radioactive waste at a geologic

³The partial decision on site suitability issues shall be incorporated in the decision regarding issuance of a construction permit to the extent that it serves as a basis for the decision on a specific site issue(s).

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repository operations area are set forth in subpart J.

[56 FR 40685, Aug. 15, 1991]

§ 2.700a Exceptions.

(a) Consistent with 5 U.S.C. 554(a)(4) of the Administrative Procedure Act, the Commission may provide alternative procedures in adjudications to the extent that there is involved the conduct of military or foreign affairs functions.

(b) This rule shall apply to proceedings in progress where hearings have already been requested or ordered as well as to future proceedings.

[47 FR 4493, Feb. 1, 1982]

§ 2.701 Filing of documents.

(a) Documents shall be filed with the Commission in adjudications subject to this part either:

(1) By delivery to the NRC Public Document Room at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738, or

(2) By mail or addressed to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

(b) All documents offered for filing shall be accompanied by proof of service upon all parties to the proceeding or their attorneys of record as required by law or by rule or order of the Commission. The staff of the Commission shall be deemed to be a party.

(c) Filing by mail, telegram, or facsimile will be deemed to be complete as of the time of deposit in the mail or with a telegraph company or upon facsimile transmission.

[27 FR 377, Jan. 13, 1962, as amended at 29 FR 12830, Sept. 11, 1964; 33 FR 6708, May 2, 1968; 39 FR 35332, Oct. 1, 1974; 53 FR 43419, Oct. 27, 1988; 62 FR 27495, May 20, 1997; 64 FR 48948, Sept. 9, 1999; 67 FR 67098, Nov. 4, 2002]

§ 2.702 Docket.

The Secretary shall maintain a docket for each proceeding subject to this part, commencing with the issuance of the initial notice of hearing, notice of consideration of issuance of facility operating license or other proposed action specified in § 2.105, or order. The

Secretary shall maintain all files and records, including the transcripts of testimony and exhibits and all papers, correspondence, decisions and orders filed or issued.

[57 FR 4153, Feb. 4, 1992]

§ 2.703 Notice of hearing.

(a) In a proceeding in which the terms of a notice of hearing are not otherwise prescribed by this part, the order or notice of hearing will state:

(1) The nature of the hearing, and its time and place, or a statement that the time and place will be fixed by subsequent order;

(2) The legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held;

(3) The matters of fact and law asserted or to be considered; and

(4) The time within which an answer shall be filed.

(b) The time and place of hearing will be fixed with due regard for the convenience of the parties or their representatives, the nature of the proceeding, and the public interest.

§ 2.704 Designation of presiding officer, disqualification, unavailability.

(a) The Commission may provide in the notice of hearing that one or more members of the Commission, or an atomic safety and licensing board, or a named officer who has been delegated final authority in the matter, shall preside. If the Commission does not so provide, the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel will issue an order designating an atomic safety and licensing board appointed pursuant to section 191 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or, if the Commission has not provided for the hearing to be conducted by an atomic safety and licensing board, the Chief Administrative Law Judge will issue an order designating an administrative law judge appointed pursuant to section 3105 of title 5 of the United States Code.

(b) If a designated presiding officer or a designated member of an atomic safety and licensing board deems himself disqualified to preside or to participate as a board member in the hearing, he shall withdraw by notice on the record and shall notify the Commission or the